

Bureau of Land Management, Interior

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removed or sold from the oil placer mining claim, including all royalty on production made subsequent to the date the claim was deemed conclusively abandoned prior to the lease issuance.

(f) Noncompetitive oil and gas leases issued under this section shall be subject to all regulations in part 3100 of this title except for those terms and conditions mandated by Title IV of the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act.

(g) A notice of the proposed conversion of the oil placer mining claim into a noncompetitive oil and gas lease, including the terms and conditions of conversion, shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER at least 30 days prior to the issuance of a noncompetitive oil and gas lease. The mining claim owner shall reimburse the Bureau for the full costs incurred in the publishing of said notice.

(h) The mining claim owner shall pay the Bureau a nonrefundable administrative fee of \$500 prior to the issuance of the noncompetitive lease.

(i) The authorized officer may, either in acting on a petition to issue a noncompetitive oil and gas lease or in response to a request filed after issuance, or both, reduce the royalty in such lease, if he/she determines there are either economic or other circumstances which could cause undue economic hardship or premature termination of production.

[49 FR 30449, July 30, 1984, as amended at 53 FR 17357, May 16, 1988; 53 FR 22840, June 17, 1988]

§ 3108.3 Cancellation.

(a) Whenever the lessee fails to comply with any of the provisions of the law, the regulations issued thereunder, or the lease, the lease may be canceled by the Secretary, if the leasehold does not contain a well capable of production of oil or gas in paying quantities, or if the lease is not committed to an approved cooperative or unit plan or communitization agreement that contains a well capable of production of unitized substances in paying quantities. The lease may be canceled only after notice to the lessee in accordance with section 31(b) of the Act and only if default continues for the period pre-

scribed in that section after service of 30 days notice of failure to comply.

(b) Whenever the lessee fails to comply with any of the provisions of the law, the regulations issued thereunder, or the lease, and if the leasehold contains a well capable of production of oil or gas in paying quantities, or if the lease is committed to an approved cooperative or unit plan or communitization agreement that contains a well capable of production of unitized substances in paying quantities, the lease may be canceled only by judicial proceedings in the manner provided by section 31(a) of the Act.

(c) If any interest in any lease is owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by means of stock or otherwise, in violation of any of the provisions of the act, the lease may be canceled, or the interest so owned may be forfeited, or the person so owning or controlling the interest may be compelled to dispose of the interest, only by judicial proceedings in the manner provided by section 27(h)(1) of the Act.

(d) Leases shall be subject to cancellation if improperly issued.

[48 FR 33662, July 22, 1983, as amended at 53 FR 22840, June 17, 1988; 53 FR 31868, Aug. 22, 1988]

§ 3108.4 *Bona fide purchasers.*

A lease or interest therein shall not be cancelled to the extent that such action adversely affects the title or interest of a *bona fide* purchaser even though such lease or interest, when held by a predecessor in title, may have been subject to cancellation. All purchasers shall be charged with constructive notice as to all pertinent regulations and all Bureau records pertaining to the lease and the lands covered by the lease. Prompt action shall be taken to dismiss as a party to any proceedings with respect to a violation by a predecessor of any provisions of the act, any person who shows the holding of an interest as a *bona fide* purchaser without having violated any provisions of the Act. No hearing shall be necessary upon such showing unless prima facie evidence is presented that

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the purchaser is not a *bona fide* purchaser.

[48 FR 33662, July 22, 1983; 48 FR 39225, Aug. 30, 1983, as amended at 53 FR 17357, May 16, 1988]

§ 3108.5 Waiver or suspension of lease rights.

If, during any proceeding with respect to a violation of any provisions of the regulations in Groups 3000 and 3100 of this title or the act, a party thereto files a waiver of his/her rights under the lease to drill or to assign his/her lease interests, or if such rights are suspended by order of the Secretary pending a decision, payments of rentals and the running of time against the term of the lease involved shall be suspended as of the first day of the month following the filing of the waiver or the Secretary's suspension until the first day of the month following the final decision in the proceeding or the revocation of the waiver or suspension.

[53 FR 17357, May 16, 1988; 53 FR 22840, June 17, 1988]

Subpart 3109—Leasing Under Special Acts

§ 3109.1 Rights-of-way.

§ 3109.1-1 Generally.

The Act of May 21, 1930 (30 U.S.C. 301-306), authorizes either the leasing of oil and gas deposits under railroad and other rights-of-way to the owner of the right-of-way or the entering of a compensatory royalty agreement with adjoining landowners. This authority shall be exercised only with respect to railroad rights-of-way and easements issued pursuant either to the Act of March 3, 1875 (43 U.S.C. 934 *et seq.*), or pursuant to earlier railroad right-of-way statutes, and with respect to rights-of-way and easements issued pursuant to the Act of March 3, 1891 (43 U.S.C. 946 *et seq.*). The oil and gas underlying any other right-of-way or easement is included within any oil and gas lease issued pursuant to the Act which covers the lands within the right-of-way, subject to the limitations on use of the surface, if any, set out in the statute under which, or permit by which, the right-of-way or easement

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was issued, and such oil and gas shall not be leased under the Act of May 21, 1930.

§ 3109.1-2 Application.

No approved form is required for an application to lease oil and gas deposits underlying a right-of-way. The right-of-way owner or his/her transferee must file the application in the proper BLM office. Include the processing fee for leasing under right-of-way found in the fee schedule in §3000.12 of this chapter. If the transferee files an application, it must also include an executed transfer of the right to obtain a lease. The application shall detail the facts as to the ownership of the right-of-way, and of the transfer if the application is filed by a transferee; the development of oil or gas in adjacent or nearby lands, the location and depth of the wells, the production and the probability of drainage of the deposits in the right-of-way. A description by metes and bounds of the right-of-way is not required but each legal subdivision through which a portion of the right-of-way desired to be leased extends shall be described.

[53 FR 17357, May 16, 1988; 53 FR 22840, June 17, 1988; 70 FR 58874, Oct. 7, 2005]

§ 3109.1-3 Notice.

After the Bureau of Land Management has determined that a lease of a right-of-way or any portion thereof is consistent with the public interest, either upon consideration of an application for lease or on its own motion, the authorized officer shall serve notice on the owner or lessee of the oil and gas rights of the adjoining lands. The adjoining land owner or lessee shall be allowed a reasonable time, as provided in the notice, within which to submit a bid for the amount or percent of compensatory royalty, the owner or lessee shall pay for the extraction of the oil and gas underlying the right-of-way through wells on such adjoining lands. The owner of the right-of-way shall be given the same time period to submit a bid for the lease.